

U.S. Serial No.: 10/659,488

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October 26, 2004

Second Amendment Under 37 CFR § 1.116-- Remarks

In the Advisory Action of October 13, 2004, the Examiner indicated that amended claims 1-3 overcame the rejection and were allowable.

Base claims 4 and 7 have been amended to incorporate the same number limitations on the number of longitudinal ribs of the elastomeric pad and the number of longitudinal rows of contacts that are in allowable base claim 1.

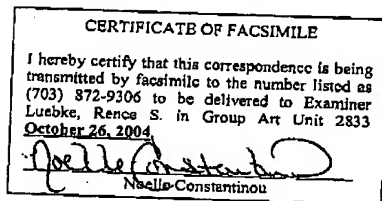
Consequently, it is believed that base claims 4 and 7 likewise overcome the rejection and are allowable. This also applies to dependent claims 5, 6, 8 and 9.

Applicants request a finding that claims 1-9 overcome the rejection under 35 USC § 103(b) as unpatentable over the applicant's prior art shown in figures 1 and 2 of the patent application in view of U.S. Patent 4,798,541 to Porter in view of the proposed amendments and allowance of the amended claims.

Please enter the amendment under the provision of 37 CFR § 1.116 and allow amended claims 1-9.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the above in detail or deem that further amendments should be made to improve the form of the claims, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized and respectfully requested to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 50-0831. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.



Respectfully submitted,

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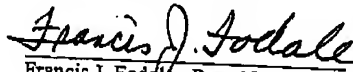
CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the number listed as (703) 872-9306 to be delivered to Examiner Luebko, Renee S. in Group Art Unit 2833

October 26, 2004


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